



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

25 OCT 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MRAI&E)  
DIRECTOR, THE JOINT STAFF

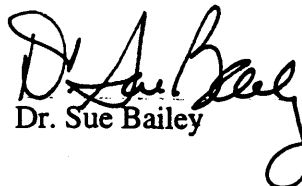
SUBJECT: Rescinding Unique Requirements for Medical Surveillance for U.S. Forces  
Deploying in Support of NATO Peace Implementation in Bosnia

This memorandum rescinds the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)) memorandum "Medical Surveillance for U.S. Forces Deploying in Support of NATO Peace Implementation in Bosnia" dated January 4, 1996. Subsequent Department of Defense (DoD) policy and guidance supersedes the requirements of the previous memorandum.

In 1997 and 1998, the DoD issued policy and guidance on deployment health surveillance in DoD Directive 6490.2, "Joint Medical Surveillance," DoD Instruction 6490.3, "Implementation and Application of Joint Medical Surveillance for Deployments," and ASD(HA) memorandum "Policy for Pre- and Post-Deployment Health Assessments and Blood Samples." The Joint Staff memorandum, "Deployment Health Surveillance and Readiness" of December 1998 established for the combatant commands specific requirements for pre- and post-deployment health assessments and other aspects of deployment health surveillance. The Joint Staff requirements are the current standards that apply to all unified commands.

The successful Force Health Protection efforts in Bosnia formed the basis for subsequent DoD policy and guidance. The information collected from unique programs, such as the post-deployment mental health screening battery for Bosnia, does require further evaluation. The results of those studies will guide the future use and selection of effective and efficient tools for assessing all aspects of health during and after deployments.

This memorandum is effective immediately. My point of contact on this issue is CAPT David Trump, MC, USN, Program Director, Preventive Medicine and Surveillance, at (703) 681-1711, DSN 761-1711, or david.trump@ha.osd.mil.

  
Dr. Sue Bailey